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Amendment dated 1 June 2004
Reply to Office Action of 3 March 2004

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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of for~~ applying an authentication material to a printed article, the method comprising, ~~the step of after applying ink to the article,~~ dispensing the authentication material in powder form over the article before the ink ~~used in printing said article~~ is fully cured.
2. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of adding an authentication material to a printed article, the method comprising the step of dispensing the authentication material in powder form over the article before ink used in printing the article is fully cured, the~~ according to claim 1 wherein dispensing the authentication material in powder form comprises simultaneously being performed by the same equipment used for dispensing a spray powder during printing of said article for preventing printed articles from adhering to other objects and wherein dispensing the authentication material and dispensing the spray powder are performed by the same equipment.
3. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of applying an authentication material to a printed article, the method~~ according to claim 2 comprising the step of mixing the authentication material with a the spray powder used during printing of the article prior to dispensing the authentication material and prior to dispensing the spray powder.

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4. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~applying a light activated authentication material to a printed article, the method comprising, the step of dispensing the light activated authentication material in powder form over the article before an ink used in printing said article is fully cured~~ according to claim 1 wherein the authentication material is light-activated.
5. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~adding a magnetic authentication material to a printed article, the method comprising the step of dispensing the magnetic authentication material in powder form over the article before an ink used in printing the article is fully cured~~ according to claim 1 wherein the authentication material comprises magnetic authentication material.
6. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~adding a biological authentication material to a printed article, the method comprising the step of dispensing the biological authentication material in powder form over the article before an ink used in printing the article is fully cured~~ according to claim 1 wherein the authentication material comprises biological authentication material.
7. (New) A method for preparing an authenticatable printed article, the method comprising: applying ink to the printed article; and, before the ink applied to the printed article is cured, applying a powder comprising an authentication material atop the ink.

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8. (New) A method according to claim 8 comprising allowing the powder to adhere to the uncured ink.
9. (New) A method according to claim 7 wherein the powder comprising the authentication material comprises a mixture of the authentication material with a spray powder for preventing printed articles from adhering to other objects.
10. (New) A method according to claim 9 wherein applying ink to the printed article and applying the powder comprising the authentication material atop the ink are performed in a printing press.
11. (New) A method according to claim 10 wherein applying the powder comprising the authentication material atop the ink is performed by a spray powder system associated with the printing press.
12. (New) A method according to claim 9 wherein the spray powder and the authentication material both comprise particles having dimensions in a range of 20-50 μ m.
13. (New) A method according to claim 8 wherein the authentication material comprises at least one of: a magnetic powder detectable by a magnetizable pick up coil; a fluorescent powder detectable via application of ultraviolet light; a biological powder detectable via biological testing; and a radio frequency absorbing powder detectable via a unique radiation absorption signature.

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14. (New) A method according to claim 7 comprising curing the ink and thereby bonding the ink to the authentication material.
15. (New) A method according to claim 14 wherein, after curing the ink, a density of the authentication material on a surface of the printed article is about 0.3mg/m^2 .
16. (New) A method for preparing an authenticatable printed article, the method comprising:
 - mixing an authentication material with a spray powder for preventing printed articles from adhering to other objects to form a powder mixture;
 - applying ink to the printed article; and
 - prior to the ink curing on the printed article, applying the powder mixture to the printed article atop the ink.
17. (New) A method according to claim 16 comprising allowing the powder mixture to adhere to the uncured ink.
18. (New) A method according to claim 17 wherein applying ink to the printed article and applying the powder mixture to the printed article atop the ink are performed in a printing press.
19. (New) A method according to claim 18 wherein applying the powder mixture to the printed article atop the ink is performed by a spray powder system associated with the printing press.

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20. (New) A method according to claim 17 wherein the spray powder and the authentication material both comprise particles having dimensions in a range of 20-50 μ m.
21. (New) A method according to claim 17 wherein the authentication material comprises at least one of: a magnetic powder detectable by a magnetizable pick up coil; a fluorescent powder detectable via application of ultraviolet light; a biological powder detectable via biological testing; and a radio frequency absorbing powder detectable via a unique radiation absorption signature.
22. (New) A method according to claim 16 comprising curing the ink and thereby bonding the ink to the authentication material.
23. (New) A method according to claim 22 wherein, after curing the ink, a density of the authentication material on a surface of the printed article is about 0.3mg/m².
24. (New) A powder mixture for authentication of printed articles, the powder mixture comprising a mixture of an authentication material and a spray powder for preventing printed articles from adhering to other objects wherein the authentication material and the spray powder comprise particles having dimensions in a range of 20-50 μ m.

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25. (New) A powder mixture according to claim 24 wherein the authentication material comprises at least one of: a magnetic powder detectable by a magnetizable pick up coil; a fluorescent powder detectable via application of ultraviolet light; a biological powder detectable via biological testing; and a radio frequency absorbing powder detectable via a unique radiation absorption signature.